



Public Art Commission  
February 2020

### **Vision**

Norfolk Public Art seeks to create a rich, diverse, environment that reflects, celebrates and invites all to experience the arts. We seek to give voice to our community and strive to unite, energize, prompt dialogue, and inspire the unique character of Norfolk.

### **Purpose**

- Interweave art with the urban fabric;
- Create a unique image and sense of place;
- Encourage positive civic discourse;
- Celebrate historic events and persons;
- Inspire, educate, beautify and give character to public places, and Support environmental awareness and resiliency
- Provide opportunities to facilitate the community values of inclusion; civic pride, cultural diversity and appreciation of the creative spirit.

### **Goals**

- Encourage participation by citizens in the process of acquiring and commissioning Works of Art;
- Foster quality design and the creation of an array of artwork in all media, materials, styles and disciplines that best respond to the distinctive characteristics of each project site and the community that it serves;
- Reflect the diversity of culture, heritage and expressions of Norfolk and Virginia;
- Build a diverse collection of public artworks by selecting a variety of artists to complete public art projects;
- Hire artists at the beginning of construction projects who can work successfully with the engineer, architect and the project design team;
- Encourage art projects for open spaces, parks, infrastructure and facilities that enhance the quality, pride, and civic identity of neighborhoods in the City;
- Encourage the role of artwork in enhancing economic development and cultural tourism;
- Encourage the role of artists in the functional design of eligible capital improvement projects;
- Foster, educate and encourage the development of future public artists;
- Document, preserve, restore and/or repair all public artwork acquired through this process or formally adopted by the Commission.

### **Art Projects Initiated and in Process**

- 5 new Norfolk Public Schools – Artist Marc Archambault has designed stone mosaics for each of the five new elementary schools. We have installed mosaic murals at Richard Bowling, Southside STEM Academy, and Camp Allen Elementary Schools. The remaining two murals will be installed at Ocean View and Larchmont Elementary in the coming year. Each mosaic represents a consistent theme of students learning through the arts.
- Munson Park – A Place in Time by Ken McCall was installed and dedicated by the community in January. The piece has three time capsules locked in the base with items collected from the community.
- Norfolk International Airport – DKL Design is creating a large blue heron made of recycled airplane parts that will be installed at the corner of Azalea Garden Road and Norview Ave.
- Chelsea Elizabeth River Trail – Local artist Larry Bage is building a Kraken of recycled buoys, metal and steel for the Elizabeth River Trail in the Chelsea business district. Bicycles, boats, skateboards and other items commonly seen on the trail are being gobbled up in the kraken's arms.
- Elizabeth River Trail Larchmont – In a unique public private partnership, Norfolk Public Art matched \$25K with the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation to commission artwork for the trail behind the Larchmont Library. The design, which is in process by artist Deedee Morrison, will use some of the concrete bases left by the temporary Mission 22 monuments.
- Bay Oaks Park – The contract is just now complete to begin the design phase with artists, Saori Ide and Jonathan Russell for the center entrance way of Bay Oaks Park.
- Billboards – Working with Adams Outdoor Advertising, works by 5 local artists have been printed and installed around the Hampton Roads area. The artwork will be moved around for the coming year as billboards lease and become available.
- Ocean View Beach Park – In a unique public private partnership, Norfolk Public Art matched \$25K with the Coastal Plein Air Society to commission artwork for Ocean View Beach Park. Artist Eileen Gay will design and install colorful mosaic sculpture in the park.
- Richard Tucker Memorial Library – A public art planning committee, made up of local community members makes the art decisions for every public art project. Working with the Southside community, we have hired African American female sculptor Vinnie Bagwell to create a realistic bronze sculpture of Richard Tucker. The sculpture will include visual information about Mr. Tucker and the history of the neighborhood.
- Lakewood Music and Dance – In a summer program working with Norfolk Emerging Leaders, local artist Richard Ward create a colorful bas relief mural of Parex.
- Police Training Facility – Local glass studio artist, Kimberly McKinnis worked with Norfolk Emerging Leaders to create colored glass and resin artwork representing the valor of Norfolk police.
- Eastern Virginia Medical School - In a unique public private partnership, Norfolk Public Art matched \$25K with EVMS's \$325,000 to commission artwork for the new Waitzer Education Building. An artist has been recommended but contract and negotiations are not complete.





*Valor* by Kimberly McKinnis at Norfolk Police Training Center



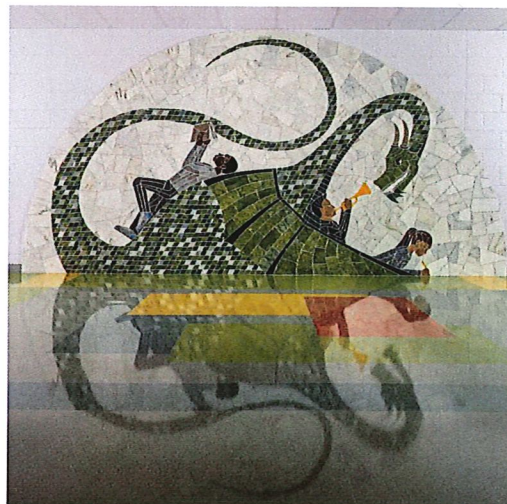
*Life Drawing Phoenix Rising* by Marc Archambault at Richard Bowling Elementary School



*Life Drawing, The Tiny Kingdom* by Marc Archambault at Southside STEM Academy



*Dance to the Music* by Richard Ward at Lakewood Music & Dance Center



*The Dragon Family* by Marc Archambault at Camp Allen Elementary



*A Place in Time* by Ken McCall at Munson Park



Two of the five 2020 artist billboards